

Put a Physical Wreck After Thrilling on the Witness Stand

Sketch shows how aged Senator, fighting the divorce suit brought by Mae C. Wood, appears in court. He presented a pitiable picture as, feeble and uttering, he slowly entered the Courthouse to-day.



Wife of White's Slayer Said to Have Balked at Settlement.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The lawyers of Mrs. Mary Coffey Thaw, mother of Harry K. Thaw, were thrown into consternation today when they learned that arrangements had been made by her attorney to withdraw her suit for the annulment of her marriage to the young man who shot and killed Stanford White, and that she would be formally withdrawn next Tuesday was the result of a long and bitter fight.

The announcement that Mrs. Thaw's suit would be formally withdrawn next Tuesday was the result of a long and bitter fight. The public had been told that the action brought by the young woman was the result of a long and bitter fight. The public had been told that the action brought by the young woman was the result of a long and bitter fight.

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The unexpected news of the young wife has resulted in the calling of a conference of the lawyers. Just what was her motive in withdrawing the suit is not known, but it is believed that she was acting under the influence of her attorney.

Whether Thaw was in the forefront, whether he was considered at all in the matter, is not clear. It is believed that she was acting under the influence of her attorney.

The suit will be withdrawn formally when the case is called before the judge appointed by the Supreme Court. The case came up yesterday, but Thaw's suit was an adjournment for a week. It is believed that she was acting under the influence of her attorney.

Twenty bodies were taken out in a row from the wreckage. The bodies were taken out in a row from the wreckage. The bodies were taken out in a row from the wreckage.

Scores Buried in Debris as Trains Crash; 75 KILLED BY WRECK

Worst Disaster in Belgian Railroad History—Many of Victims Religious Pilgrims.

ANTWERP, May 21.—Seventy-five were killed and one hundred injured in a collision between two passenger trains here today.

The scene of the collision was at Combray, six miles southeast of Antwerp. The wreckage was a scene of horror. The collision was a scene of horror.

A train filled with pilgrims had been switched to a siding to permit the delivery of mail. The train was filled with pilgrims.

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12 PAGES.

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96

VOL. 5—No. 62.

BOSTON, THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1908.

ONE CENT.

BOUGHT THEM OF HUMMEL FOR \$10,000; THEN UNKIDLED THEM



Startling Testimony in Court To-day as Senator's Son Testifies in Case—Mae Wood Declares Letters Taken From Her Proved Marriage With Millionaire.

NEW YORK, May 21.—Frank H. Platt, son of Senator Thomas C. Platt, who is being sued for divorce by Mae C. Wood, admitted on the witness stand in Justice O'Gorman's Court to-day that he paid \$10,000 to Abraham Hummel for thirty or thirty-five letters of his father's. Nearly all of these letters, he admitted, were later burned. He was very wary as to the contents of the letters, but stoutly swore when prodded by the lawyers that marriage was not mentioned in them.

Mae Wood claims that letters proving her marriage to the Senator were taken from her by the ex-covited, Hummel.

Young Platt declared that the reason the \$10,000 was paid to Miss Wood through Hummel was that the entire family regarded the affair as a case of blackmail and wished to get out of it with as little publicity as possible, owing to the Senator's approaching marriage with Miss Lillian Janeway.

"BLACKMAIL" LETTER.
"Why did you destroy some of the letters and keep others?" Lefebvre asked.

"I was afraid she wouldn't say bought," replied young Platt, "and kept those letters for evidence that accused most cabaretiers."

"When did you first suspect that a demand for money would be made on your father?"
"When that blackmailing letter from Hummel was received by my father."

"I never to strike out that blackmailing reference," said Lefebvre.
"Indeed," sharply answered the Court, "without a woman's testimony."

"The letters proved that he or any one in his family had employed I. Martin to go to New York to deal with Miss Wood," said Lefebvre.

"After that," he said, "that Miss Wood was attempting to print a batch of my father's letters unless he paid her \$10,000, and advised that we give her the money as it would be the only way to get rid of her."

"Did father tell you that the money was the wife of your father?" asked Lefebvre.
"No," he said, "the money claimed an engagement."

MEET MR. HUMMEL.
On direct examination Platt told of the payment.
"You met Mr. Hummel at Mr. Schick's office in 1907?" asked Mr. Lefebvre.

"Did Hummel say he had been retained by Miss Wood?"
"He said that he had been retained by Miss Wood."

REEL SOX CARD TO FACE PUZZLING HOWELL

Field blanches two or three years ago? and then had a new from this year and would testify that Howell's playing of baseball was a thing to solve the mysteries of the game.

The Bill Howell who started out with the other St. Louis pitchers, looked familiar. Bill Howell, who started out with the other St. Louis pitchers, looked familiar.

It was only Howell's turn to do the pitching for the first Sox and he turned up as though he would take great pleasure in getting a victory in the Sox. He had had other bad luck this season, but not all the games, his loss are charged to him.

"Your honor," said Lawyer L. E. Barber, "I have a constitution with Miss Wood, my client would like to examine the witness here."

"The plaintiff has consented," said Justice Freeman. "Let counsel do the questioning."

Miss Wood showed evidence of despair. Miss Wood showed evidence of despair. Miss Wood showed evidence of despair.

Attorney Stanchfield for the Senator read a deposition from Frederick E. Hately, a stationer taken in St. Louis last night, who showed that the marriage certificate exhibited by Miss Wood was an illegitimate copy, and that there was a woman alleged the marriage took place in St. Louis. The deposition dealt with the other evidence in places used by the firm which appeared.

Continued on Page 2—Column 2.

"Forbidden Fruit" Another Beautiful Picture in Colors Given FREE On Heavy Paper To Frame, With Sunday American

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assortment of
blue 12 1/2c.
8 1/2c

**FREE WITH NEXT SUNDAY'S
AMERICAN**

WONDERLAND

GENERAL ADMISSION

One 10 Cent Ticket, Good Monday or Tuesday, May 25 or 26

DARLING'S CIRCUS

ONE TEN CENT TICKET

Admitting to the Pony, Monkey and Dog Show Inside
Wonderland Grounds.

These tickets, worth 20 cents, will be given away next Sunday with every
five cent copy of the Boston American

*In addition to the tickets
mentioned above the Boston
American will give away
next Sunday a copy of this
beautiful painting,*

"Forbidden Fruit"



*In
Brilliant
Colors
On Heavy
Paper
Ready
For
Framing*

Order your paper to-day. If you wait until Sunday the edition may be
exhausted before you get to the newsdealer's

nts

Main Floor.

GOVERNMENTAL

GOLD BOARDS AT THEATRES

Popular Plays Being Given
Farewell Productions for
the Season.

BIG CROWDS CONTINUE

There will be but four more performances in Boston this season of "The Man of the Hour." The play shows its extraordinary run at the Tremont Theatre on Saturday night.

The "Sonic Temple on Bowdoin" continues to be a success for women, children and others who delight in a very clean, interesting and up-to-date entertainment.

"A Knight for a Day" will be given at the Tremont on Monday for the first time in Boston. It is a diverting and novel story. John Stuyvesant and May Vokes are the stars and will shine at their best.

Miss Eleanor Gordon has been very successful as "Zola" at the Boston Theatre. The rendition of this famous Belgian play at this house is one of the best it has.

Bits of grand opera by great singers at the Boston Theatre will be given this week. The Boston Theatre features this week that have proven popular attractions.

A play which Augustus Thomas, its author, characterized "The other kind," will be the attraction at the Boston Theatre very soon.

A "Furn of the Past" is a melodrama by Jay Hunt which has pleased Bostonians. The play is a melodrama which is a very fine thing, but the quality of the production is not so good.

The French Gaiety has been crowded the Palace Theatre since the opening of the season. The French Gaiety has been crowded the Palace Theatre since the opening of the season.

Pictures of the Fleet.

Pictures of the United States battleship fleet are being shown at the Boston Theatre. The pictures are being shown at the Boston Theatre.

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GIRLS EJECTED BY BANKER THREATEN SUIT

Hannah E. Woods (at right) and Catherine Woods, sisters, who declare rich Melrose banker, Frederick W. Thomas, injured them by violently ejecting them from his home. They threaten to have a warrant issued for him. Mr. Thomas says he used no force and that the girls insulted his wife.



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IRON ROAD BRIDGE DESTROYED BY PLOT

EIGHTY-FOOT STEEL SPAN NEAR NEW YORK DESTROYED BY EXPLOSION.

By Boston American Leased Wire.

NEW YORK, May 21.—The southern end of the eighty-foot steel span that carries the city island road over the tracks of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad at Baychester was blown into the air today by a terrific explosion of dynamite. The bridge was part of the improvements being made by the railroad.

The force of the explosion was sufficient to smash against every window in the village of Baychester and three of its inhabitants in many cases from their beds. It drove a door into the street and caused considerable damage to the structure.

The structure in which the work was done was the eighty-foot steel span which carries the city island road over the tracks of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad at Baychester.

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The highest-grade, lowest-priced clothing that bears the union label is made here.

If it is at Morse's, it's correct. If it's correct, it's at Morse's.



The general trend in clothing style is toward pronounced effects and away from the sober, staid, conservative ideas. No doubt of it.

And yet— There's a considerable number of men who will always insist on wearing the quiet, unobtrusive styles in preference to any others.

Our position in the matter is neutral.

We're here to satisfy all tastes—the young fellow's radical notions as well as the style-ideas of his conservative elders, for whom we've provided a broad, comprehensive variety of suits in just the subdued patterns most desired.

Prices, \$12, \$15, \$18, \$20 and \$25. All sizes—"regulars," "longs," "shorts" and "others." And every suit is Morse-made.

We are wholesalers as well as retailers, and Morse-made Clothing is made in the quiet, unobtrusive cities and towns. Do you grasp all that that means?

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SIEGEL MEN ORGANIZE CLUB

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SHOUSE MARKS ON THREAT

Miss Hannah E. Woods and her younger sister, Miss Catherine Woods, county young women employed as domestics for the past four years in the household of Frederick W. Thomas of No. 45 Bellevue avenue, Melrose, declared today that as soon as they could get their dress suits from the Thomas house they would apply for a warrant against him for assault and battery which they alleged he committed against them in forcibly ejecting them from his home Monday night.

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"FIRE CALLS, 'L' PRESIDENT"

—THOMAS L. HIGGINS

Denies story that he would not be standard bearer in national campaign.

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HUBMEN FINED FOR SPEEDING AUTO

Two Boston men, Leslie A. Lewis and Samuel Lowenthal, were in the Quincy district court today charged with exceeding the automobile speed limit last night in Milton. Lewis was fined \$20.

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What Women Need

Something to put the blood in good order when they are pale and muddy; something to clear the complexion when it is sallow or dry; something to give the system a tonic and energize the nerves when it is depleted. That something is

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Something to put the blood in good order

GREATER BOSTON MUSICIANS NOTED SUCCESS

Compositions of Miss Phelan of
Somerville in Demand
by Publishers.

One of the busiest young persons in Greater Boston this week is Miss Elsie Phelan of Hull street, Somerville, the talented composer and pianist.

In addition to various minor engagements and her daily routine of engagements, Miss Phelan has three particularly important matters in hand for immediate attention.

This evening she was to be at the "Pop" concert in Symphony Hall, where the orchestra will play one of her compositions under direction of Gustav Strakos.

Two Engagements One Night.
She is also booked to appear in the Women's Club recital at Foster Hall, where she will play some of her music, and also offer one of the piano pieces for which she is quite noted.

Miss Phelan's compositions have been published in various forms, and her compositions have been published in various forms, and her compositions have been published in various forms.

Compositions Never Rejected.
Miss Elsie Phelan is still in the early stages of her career, and her compositions have been published in various forms, and her compositions have been published in various forms.

Malcolm Bowditch Stone and Marion Lewis Made Man and Wife To-day.

A smart wedding, exclusive for its simplicity, was that at noon today of the ceremony which united Malcolm Bowditch Stone, 28, and Marion Lewis, 26.

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CRITICS SING COMPOSER'S PRAISE

Miss Elsie Phelan of Somerville, whose clever music compositions have been heard in several cities, has also won much success as a pianist, and her services are in almost daily demand.



Miss Elsie Phelan, the composer, at the piano.

By Boston American Special Wire.
NEW YORK, May 21.—Following the announcement of her marriage to Arthur H. Osborn, the young New York pianist, Miss Elsie Phelan, the brilliant composer of music, is in the city of New York.

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LONDON POLICE CLUB STREET RAGGERS STREET RAGGERS

WOMEN STORM ASQUITH'S OFFICE AND RATTLE RAGES FOR AN HOUR.

LONDON, May 21.—Downing street was the scene of another outbreak by the suffragettes today. For an hour or more they besieged the office of Mr. Asquith, the prime minister, and the office of the Home Secretary, Mr. Balfour.

The police charged the crowd and made use of their clubs. The women and their sympathizers perched and fought the police, but not with any success. The police, however, did not use force.

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ADVANCE BILL TO STRENGTHEN FINANCE BOARD

Repealing several amendments offered by Senator Lincoln and Senator the State Senate passed in congressional yesterday the bill giving additional powers to the Finance Commission in the matter of taking testimony and conducting hearings. Senator Lincoln was the author of the bill, which was passed by the Senate.

The bill gives to any person summoned to appear before the Finance Commission the right to a ten minute cross-examination by the committee. It also gives the commission the power to take testimony from witnesses who are not present at the hearing.

The commission is given the power to apply to the court for an order compelling the attendance of any person who refuses to appear before the commission. It also gives the commission the power to take testimony from witnesses who are not present at the hearing.

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LABOR NEWS

As a result of the defeat of the powerful packing bill the executive board of the Massachusetts Labor Branch of the American Federation of Labor has issued a call for a general meeting to be held Tuesday afternoon, June 23, at 1:30 p. m., in Faneuil Hall.

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JORDAN MARSH & CO.

Remember: We are never undersold. We guarantee the price of everything we sell to be as low or lower than the same article can be bought elsewhere in New England.

Our week-end bargain sales need no introduction to the New England public. They are well known for their matchless economies in goods of sterling worth—the only kind to be found here, however little the price may be.

Below are examples of the offerings throughout the store during these two red-letter bargain days—there are hundreds of other equally good values not advertised.

50c Mohair 25c
25c wide choice collection of light effects in plaids, checks and stripes. Price 25c

75c Pongee Silk 39c
Old lot of yard wide chiffon plaid effects in plaids, considered good value at 75c a yard. To close 39c

60c Natural Pongee 49c
A rough cutting with all the beauty of high grade silk, 24 inch wide, a yard, 60c. Special, at 49c

50c Crepe de Chine 29c
Just a few pieces of this fine white crepe de Chine for all around wear. Specially priced for Friday sale at 29c

1.00 Black Taffeta 69c
A special value in a black skirt—lady's, fully 27 inches wide; worth 1.00. Special for Friday sale at 69c

1.25 Stripe Taffeta 85c
A very stylish black and white stripe taffeta, splendid for costume, 40 inches wide and priced at 1.25. Special at 85c

50c Silk Gloves 95c
16-inch, monochrome silk gloves, double tipped fingers; black, white, gray and navy. Sale price, 50c. Special at 95c

1.00 to 1.75 Hats 25c
Comprising: chip, marilla, pat, milton, pique, jute, and Italian bird hats in white and colors. Price 25c

80c Shade Hats 10c
Cuba bird hats, wide soft brim, tan or wired into any desired shape. Price 10c

87c Wings at 25c
Handsome large imported wings in black, white and white and white. Price 25c

3.00 to 4.00 Umbrellas 1.95

Fine glass umbrellas for women, choice handles of silver, horn, natural, etc. Value 3.00 to 4.00. Sale price 1.95

1.50 China Berry Sets 80c
One large and 6 small dishes with sugar and cream to match; true and gold design. Sale price, each, 80c

1.75 Cake Sets at 1.19
One large and 6 small plates of real Austrian china, delicately decorated with gold. Sale price, set, 1.19

3c Fruit Plates at 17c
Or real French china, daintily decorated and worth 3c each. Sale price, each, 17c

1.50 Table Tumblers 80c
Load heavy, beveled etched glass. Sale price, each, 80c

80c Water Sets 30c
Old colonial style pitcher with 6 tumblers. Price, a set, 80c

2.25 Punch Sets 1.00
Punch bowl with foot and 6 punch cups to match. Sale price, set, 1.00

75c Glass Vases at 1.00
Or Bohemian glassware, 12 inches high with raised fruit and floral designs. Sale price, each, 1.00

25c Hat Pins at 10c
Jet, crystal and fancy imported hat pins. Sale price, each, 10c

80c Pins and Buckles 25c
Best pins and buckles in black, oxidized and gold. Sale price, each, 25c

75c Hat Pins at 30c
Or very brilliant white stones in flower shape. Sale price, each, 30c

30c Silver Purse at 25c
Silver plated purse that never before sold below 30c. Now 25c

2.00 Silver Bags at 3.00
Imported silver plated handbags, plated frame and 3.00 silk lined. Sale price, each, 2.00

2.00 Silver Bags at 3.00
Imported silver plated handbags, plated frame and 3.00 silk lined. Sale price, each, 2.00

MUST BE SOLD AT ONCE

MUST BE SOLD AT ONCE
IF YOU ARE IN A POSITION to act quickly we can remove a first-class farm at a bargain price. This is a one-man farm near a city, with many markets well located. It has a large house, barn, silos, and other buildings. The property is well situated to stream and electricity. It has several large trees in grove and tillage, suitable for any crop. It has a large apple, peach, plum, currant, large blueberry and strawberry, set of buildings in good condition. House, barn, silos, and other buildings. One of the best in the area. 3000 sq. ft. barn 20x20. 1000 sq. ft. poultry house. Price includes a good horse. \$25,000. 300 sq. ft. 75 poultry. lot of other horses. Price \$25,000. **REAL ESTATE**

DESIRABLE HOME

LOCATED AT A BARGAIN
11 rooms, all modern conveniences, 5,600 ft. of fruit trees, shrubbery; attractive for residence or investment. Call for details. Payment by cash or installment will, like necessity your opportunity; \$8 reasonable offer accepted; two minutes walk from downtown business district. Call Mr. C. E. Jenning at Southway Co., or Spring Hill car from subway; will pay you to investigate (this exceptional property). Can be seen at any time, owner's property.

HYDE PARK.

A 2 FAMILY HOUSE, with 2 baths, 2 ovens and 2 small dorms view full of land. Call for details. Call Mr. C. E. Jenning at \$299 down and \$12 a month. C. E. JENNING 1024 N. CENTER RD.

BARK

WOOLSTEADT CO. FARM—25 acres, Clubhouse

3 FAMILY HOUSE, EVERETT.
GOOD location; well rented; improvements; good
lot; extra good day service; cheap at \$5,000; cash
\$4,500, part cash, buys Dept. 4, P. F. LELAND

[illegible]

EVERETT—Today, 104 Trilston st.; near carter, 6 rooms, renovated, tile, oak corner, new paint and sanded, \$1375; down, 1454 as rent.

56 MAY ST., near other house, 6 rooms, new painted and sanded, ready to move right into; little gas, \$1125; \$175 down; we have others.

NICKERSON & BROWN, 1808 Fremont bldg.

2 FAMILY HOUSE, 12 rooms, improvements, 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft., 1000 sq. ft. of land; this place is worth \$5,000, but can buy it for \$1,200, cash terms. **E. B. NORRIS**, 443 Broadway, Everett, Mass.

SEA SHORE: Lots at Hough's Neck, \$5 down and \$1 a week. Take the money that you would have spent on a house and build a little cottage. Your own, W. A. DINHAM, 7 Water st., York.

REDUCED FROM \$4,500—3 family, all improvements, one mile to Field's Cove, tract for sale, rents \$40.00, where can you beat it? RUMFEL & CO., 1702 1/2 st., Brooklyn.

FOR SALE: Maline, N. H. Main and 4000 acres, trout seashore and lakes; part cash, GEORGE CHILL, 225 Tremont st., Boston.

CHANCES

disputed, \$10. per line.

LIQUOR SALOON, located in Pawtucket, R. terms upon application by letter or person to J. GALLAGHER & CO., 28 School st.

LIQUOR SALOON, located in the theatrical district of Providence, R. I., 7 tables, and one drinking room; \$2,000 down. P. J. GALL.

\$1500-LODGING HOUSE BARGAINS—I make money out of my business, and I have a few houses on about every desirable street in the N. End. Back like and Heaven Hill at the lowest possible price, cash or terms. **F. J. TURNER, 1000 Washington St.**

\$150 DOWN—I manage over 100 best looking houses Appleton St. **SIMONDS, 724 Washington St.**

\$800-LODGING HOUSE, near Majestic, take away—good buy, at my office, cost \$800; on very easy terms. **SIMONDS.**

\$700-LODGING HOUSE, 12 rooms, very neat, attractive; worth \$1,000; see this. **MAYNARD.**

E-350—CHICKERY, prairie area, 8000 ac.
ranch investigation mailed. HAYDEN, 238 W.
Main st.

E-351—RESTAURANT, five miles out, 8000
business heavy. WATCH, H. rent \$18; 10

LODGING HOUSE Lady will sell on
terms; up-to-date. SIMONDR, 724 Washington

LODGING and boarding house, 20 rooms,
furnished; rent \$40 month; excellent location,
near city hall, personal care. 12 years; ill
compels sale. DORCHESTER, E 728

—MOVING PICTURE THEATRE for sale;
quire MANAGER, Theatre Comique, Somerville

CITY OF BOSTON.
1295 OFFICE OF THE LICENSE BOARD FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON, MAY 21, 1908.
Notice is hereby given that under Chapter 104 of the Revised Laws, that Edward H. Graham and John

Chalbourne, as Alvin and Garbo, have applied for licenses of the First and Fourth Classes to sell intoxicating liquors to individuals and who are known as "A" and "B" respectively. The first street (now entrance) is 1574 Washington street, and 1A Humstead court entrance on Humstead street, corner of the building to the Brewster street entrance in whole of said building.

Attest: EZZA H. BAKER, Chairman

P27 OFFICE OF THE LICENSE BOARD FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON, MAY 21, 1908

Notice is hereby given, under Chapter 100, of the

H. (Charles) BAKER, will accept H. Grabow, here ap-
 plying for the privilege of supplying water to
 his guests under their interior license of the
 city as innholders, from 11 to 12 o'clock
 today, at No. 21 Houston street, in
 town entrance, 1517 1/2 Washington street
 1 and 1 1/2 basement court and all
 walk elevator entrance on Myrtle
 street court, in building shown as
 basement entrance, in following
 rooms of said building, one room in basement
 one room on second floor.

GEORGE H. BAKER, Chairman

PROPOSALS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.
Metropolitan Sewerage Board. Notice to
Contractors.—Sealed proposals will be received at
the office of the Metropolitan Water and Sewer
Board, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, Mass.,
from 10 A. M. of THURSDAY, June 19, 1938, for
constructing to earth trench 12 in. concrete
and 12-inch pipe sewers near Section 86 of
Extension of the High Level Sewer, South M
poldan System, Washington Street, Brig
ton, with
specifications to be furnished by the Board. A
part-are are estimated to be as follows: 1

Portland brick masonry; 500 cubic yards of concrete masonry in trench. The invert of the trench from D-1 east to 20 feet below the street surface will be constructed by the contractor. A contract can be obtained at the above office.

There must be accompanied by a certified check \$1,000, payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and a cash deposit of \$5,000, secured from the successful bidder. The bidder reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

HENRY M. SPRAGUE, HENRY P. WALSH
JAMES A. BALLEW, JR., Metropolitan Water
Supply Board, Boston, Massachusetts
Street and Sewerage Works, William N. Davis

STEAMSHIPS.

ALLAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS

MODERATE RATE. PASSENGER SERVICE.	
Norwegian June 5	Norwegian June 19
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Wanted.

WANTED. .

WANTED—Shooting saltery; pop corn
machine; peanut roaster. HENRY BARLOW.
Plain st., Providence, R. I.

SEWING MACHINES.

160 SINGER, good as new, for \$50, at 34 W.
4th. Reelers, next to Hunt's lunch room.

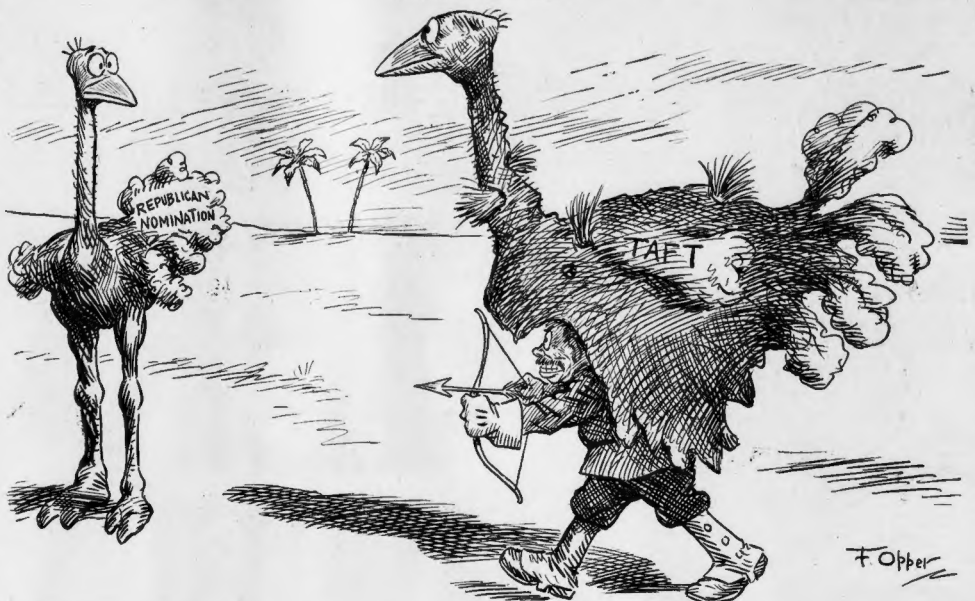
THE BOSTON AMERICAN

80 AND 82 SUMMER ST., BOSTON, MAY 21, 1908

NOTICE TO OSTRICHES!

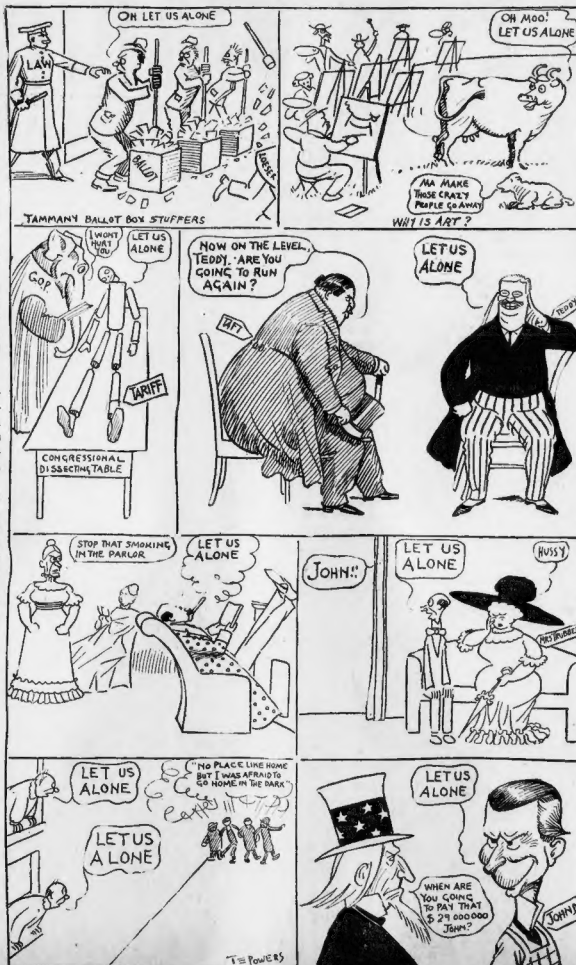
Beware of a Curious Looking Stuffed Ostrich with Rough-Rider Legs!

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LET US ALONE! By T. E. Powers

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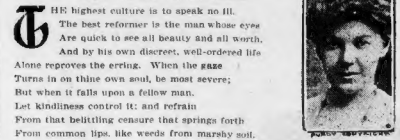


The Critical Habit

Seek faults in yourself rather than comment too readily on the failings of your friends

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox

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THE highest culture is to speak no ill. The best reformer is the man whose eyes are quick to see all beauty and all worth. And by his own discreet, well-ordered life alone removes the evil. When the ~~man~~ turns in on his own soul, he is most severe; but when it falls upon a fellow man. Let kindness control its suit refrain from that belittling censure that springs forth from common lips, like weeds from marshy soil.

GOING through an old attic one and probably, you do not realize how dark a scrap of paper left in the past, looking always to the Great Lights, which we call God, for help to sustain the resolve, must be a reservoir of beauty and eternal youth, and each publication of such a heart must send new charm and attraction to the whole personality.

A Difficult Resolve

I do not know if the young woman I have been able to keep her difficult resolve to the letter, but that is the necessity of making the effort in this critical and fault-seeking world, and of forming such a compact with herself, speaks volumes in her praise.

I said difficult resolve; for, indeed, such a resolution calls for greater strength and poise than many a deed of valor and daring. Hundreds of people might be found among our acquaintances who would be brave and forgetful of self in time of fire, or flood, or shipwreck, or railroad disaster; people who would give their all to succor and aid a stranger, or an enemy, who would die for a friend.

But how few of these hundreds could be counted on to say no selfish, cruel, or derogatory word of any living being.

How few, indeed, could refrain from criticism of their personal friends!

How few of us ever think of the need of such a resolve as this young girl makes for herself.

Take any bevy of people who sit together for a social evening and listen to the conversation. No matter whether they belong to the lower, middle or "upper" classes of society, you will find that the faults and misdeeds of the absent occupy a large share of the hour's conversation.

Watch Your Tongue

Yet before you condemn the critic, lend an ear to your own conversation for one entire day. Possibly

And what good is the habit doing your friends, or you?

Beneficial Criticism

A CRITICISM HOUR formed one of the features of the Omaha conference, and an individual who had such a reputation calls for greater strength and poise than many a deed of valor and daring. Hundreds of people might be found among our acquaintances who would be brave and forgetful of self in time of fire, or flood, or shipwreck, or railroad disaster; people who would give their all to succor and aid a stranger, or an enemy, who would die for a friend.

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When the Rich American Finds He Has a Soul for Art

He Is Quite Funny, Almost Pathetic

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SILLY, RICH AMERICANS THAT IMAGINE THEMSELVES COLLECTORS, WITH TASTE AND DISCRIMINATION.

Americans in this energetic, industry-developing, money-getting age are doing a useful work. They ought to be satisfied to be builders of industry, conquerors of nature's forces, ORGANIZERS AND DEVELOPERS OF A NEW LAND.

But they are not satisfied; they want to be artistic and have an artistic temperament. The gentleman who has turned respectable pigs into very respectable hams and lard wants to enjoy the sensation of the old-fashioned connoisseur, with a lace ruffle at his wrist and a fine eye for form and color.

Our railroad men and corporation lawyers and others that know as much about art as a hen knows about geometry turn to collecting pictures.

Once in a while, as happened the other day, these gentlemen find that they are collecting bogus pictures.

When a dog walks on his hind legs he is an amusing creature. When an American who ought to be contented and proud to do the things that he understands becomes a dilettante art collecting gentleman HE'S FUNNY. He is VERY funny when he learns that his beautiful antique Tanagras were made in Germany—made as recently, sometimes, as the week before last.

In New York one of the city's most artistic bogus picture-collecting souls is in deep and amusing distress. One art dealer has arrested, locked up and then let out on bail. One artist has torn his hair and declared his family ruined because he was accused of imitating another artist's pictures.

All dishonesty should be discouraged in trade, no matter of what kind it may be. But, in our opinion, it is much more harmful for a clerk to sell nitric acid to children in place of lemonade, or to sell other abominations in the way of falsified food, than to sell very nice, neatly varnished, imitation old pictures to very nice, neatly dressed, genuine nouveau riche.

After all, why doesn't the American millionaire, with his art fad, imitate the American mother and be happy in the belief that he has got THE MOST WONDERFUL THING IN THE WORLD! She is proud of her baby merely because it looks like Napoleon. Mr. Evans, try to be proud of your funny paintings merely because they look like Lunegans. A few years from now no one will know or care much more about Innies than about you.

What does the rich gentleman buy? Does he buy a picture that he sees and likes, or does he buy a name signed at the bottom, as if he were buying one of his own checks?

How unconsciously and amusingly these rich collectors that know nothing of their collections expose themselves to public ridicule! If they don't know the genuine picture from the imitation, certainly the IMITATION doesn't hurt them. And if they want to collect names, why not go to some reputable autograph dealer and buy all the big names they want; they can be bought very cheaply.

However, this funny, blind groping in art, this comical craving for some artistic ideal, is perhaps all along the line of development. Very likely the old Medici, who looked so much like Rockefeller and who originally piled up the great Medici fortune, knew much less about art than those later Medici that gave Michael Angelo and many others their cash.

English "Sportsmanship"

They Do Squeal When They Lose

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Such expressions as "sportsmanship," "good loser" and "good nature in defeat" are still frequently used in England. But somehow, when an English champion gets beaten, we are very apt to learn that he wasn't really beaten by the man that won the championship. Sometimes, as in the Transvaal, the English champions sobbingly declare that they were beaten because the Boers wouldn't stand up on top of the kopjes and wait emotionlessly to be shot at.

Eustace H. Miles, English champion, is even funnier than that. It seems that he was beaten, not by young Jay Gould, the American who had given him two previous trouncings, but "by a straw hat and coffee."

After Miles got his beating he wrote an article for an English paper headed, "Why I Lost," saying:

"Never in all my life have I experienced such a set of adverse strokes and situations. They might be summed up thus: that I just missed and he just got. I make no excuse for myself; I deserved to miss because I did not hit quite accurately, while he, I want a good background for the ball. The background for Gould's service was a bobbing straw hat."

In addition to the straw hat, according to Miles, there was also coffee, which young Gould drank in the last set, "which," says Miles, "those who can stand it, is a more potent stimulant than alcohol." Of course, what really beat Mr. Miles, the English champion, was his inability to play better than his quicker, stronger and with greater endurance. Miles, with beautiful English self-conceit, puts the blame on a criminal hat, a cup of coffee and bad luck.

There are undoubtedly many English sportsmen who take a beating without trying to twist it into a victory. But we are unfortunate in having to do with few samples of them. It is only fair to warn Englishmen that when a man writes "I deserved to miss because I did not hit quite accurately, while he beat me," and then makes a feeble effort to limp out of his defeat, it is a sign that the sport and the people that he represents are going down hill, even to the extent of losing their sense of the ridiculous.